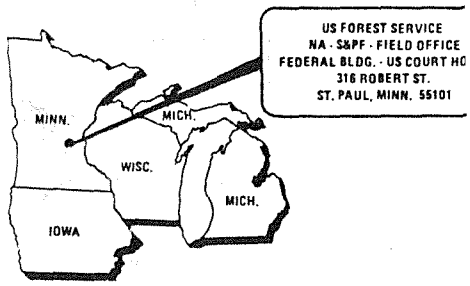
US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

5220

Northeastern Area
State & Private Forestry
DIVISION OF FOREST PEST CONTROL



Report S-70-5 September, 1970

ASPEN DEFOLIATION BY THE LARGE ASPEN TORTRIX ON THE HIAWATHA NATIONAL FOREST

By Glen Erickson

INTRODUCTION

Aspen defoliation was first reported in 1970. During the jack-pine budworm aerial survey aspen defoliation was mapped in. Ground checks confirmed it was caused by the Large Aspen Tortrix, Choristoneura conflictana (Wlk.).

METHODS

The survey was flown July 28, 1970, in the Forest Service Aero-Commander. Flight lines were in a north-south direction, in parallel lines four miles apart, 1,000 feet above the ground at 120 m.p.h. Defoliation was classed as: Moderate to heavy - tree canopy estimated having 50%+ defoliation.

RESULTS

In all areas moderate to heavy defoliation occurred to the aspen. Generally, heavy defoliation was confined to individual and/or small scattered groups of trees. All other aspen had moderate defoliation.

No aspen defoliation was observed in the west unit of the forest.